



AmeriHealth Caritas[™]
District of Columbia

To:	All AmeriHealth Caritas DC Providers
Date:	March 17, 2020
Subject:	Provider Notice on COVID-19

AmeriHealth Caritas DC has been closely monitoring the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the latest information about COVID-19, and has been engaged in making the necessary plans based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). AmeriHealth Caritas DC recommends that providers follow CDC, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and state-specific guidance with regard to COVID-19 evaluation, testing, diagnosis, treatment, and reporting.

COVID-19 testing.

AmeriHealth Caritas DC will cover all medically necessary services required to facilitate testing and treatment of COVID-19 for its eligible enrollees, in accordance with federal and state guidance. No prior authorization is required for COVID-19 testing. Coronavirus testing codes follow:

- **U0001-** CDC 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Real-Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Panel.
- **U0002-** Coronavirus (COVID-19) for non-CDC laboratory tests for SARS-CoV-2/2019.

CDC Links for more information:

Evaluating and Reporting Persons Under Investigation (PUI):

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html>

Coding encounters related to COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/ICD-10-CM-Official-Coding-Guidance-Interim-Advice-coronavirus-feb-20-2020.pdf>

If you suspect you or a patient has COVID-19.

The CDC instructs providers to consult with local or state health departments to determine whether patients meet criteria for a Persons Under Investigation (PUI) (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html>). Providers should immediately notify infection control personnel at their facility if they suspect COVID-19 in a patient. Please notify your state or local health department if a patient is classified as a PUI for COVID-19.



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Providers should report recognized exposures, regularly monitor themselves for fever and symptoms of respiratory infection, and not report to work when ill. Providers in low-, medium-, or high-risk exposure categories who develop signs or symptoms compatible with COVID-19 are strongly encouraged to contact their established point of contact (public health authorities or their facility's occupational health program) for medical evaluation prior to returning to work.

CDC Links for more information:

CDC: Healthcare Professionals: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/faq.html>.

Interim U.S. Guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure in a Healthcare Setting to Patients with Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assessment-hcp.html>.

If you need to close your office due to exposure.

AmeriHealth Caritas DC is committed to helping to ensure enrollee access to care. In the event of an office closure, please contact your provider network account executive. If you do not know who your provider network account executive is or how to contact them, please call AmeriHealth Caritas DC Provider Services at 1-888-656-2383. This will allow us to update our records and also help enrollees identify alternative options if they have an urgent need.

If you decide to close your office, we encourage you to offer telemedicine visits to your patients with urgent needs. If you do not have this capability or do not plan to implement it, we would ask that you refer AmeriHealth Caritas DC patients to MYidealDOCTOR, AmeriHealth Caritas DC's solution for 24/7/365 access to medical professionals over the phone or interactive video. MYidealDOCTOR offers AmeriHealth Caritas DC enrollees a convenient way to talk with and receive treatment from a provider who can consult, diagnose, and prescribe medication (if needed) for common and acute illnesses.

AmeriHealth Caritas DC enrollees can reach MYidealDOCTOR at 1-855-879-4332 or at myidealdoctor.com.

For more resources and guidance, please access the CDC COVID-19 homepage:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.